REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-64 are pending in this application, of which claims 15-64 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1, 2, 6, 8 and 10-14 have been amended. No new claims have been added.

Fig. 7 has been corrected to correct two obvious typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3-5 and 7-12 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,034,459 to Matsunobu et al. (hereinafter "**Matsunobu et al.**").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Matsunobu et al. discloses a permanent magnet type dynamoelectric machine for driving a motor vehicle having a stator with a stator iron core and a rotor with a rotor iron core facing the stator iron core through an air gap permitting rotation of the rotor. A plurality of permanent magnets are embedded along the circumference of the rotor iron core.

Column 3, lines 15-33 disclose:

> FIG. 1 shows a pair of poles of a three phase permanent magnet type dynamoelectric machine having eight poles and forty eight slots representing a first embodiment according to the present invention. The structure of a stator 1 shown in FIG. 1 is substantially identical to a conventional stator. Forty-eight slots 3 are formed along the inner circumference of a stator iron core 2 having a substantially annular configuration, and stator windings U1, V1 and Wi for respective phases U, V and W are inserted and disposed therein. On the inner circumference of the stator iron core 2, openings corresponding to each of the respective slots 3 are formed.

> On the other hand, the rotor 6 includes an iron core 7 fitted and secured on a rotor shaft 9, and a plurality of permanent magnets 8 made of neodymium alloy and magnetized alternatively between N pole and S pole. The magnets are inserted in the axial direction and assembled in respective receiving portions formed by punching along the outer circumference of the rotor iron core 7.

The Examiner has urged that **Matsunobu et al.** discloses 14 permanent magnets and 12 windings. According to the passage above, however, **Matsunobu et al.** actually discloses 8 permanent magnets and 24 windings. Thus, **Matsunobu et al.** fails to disclose that P>N, where P is the number of permanent magnets and N is the number of windings, as recited in claim 7.

Accordingly, claim 7 has been canceled and claim 1 has been amended to include this limitation.

Matsunobu et al. also fails to disclose that $12 \leq P \leq 30$, where P is the number of permanent magnets, as recited in claim 10. The limitations of claim 11 are also clearly not met.

Thus, the 35 USC §102(b) rejection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 6 and 13-14 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claims 2, 6 and 13-14 have been amended.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-6 and 8-14, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Replacement Sheet of Drawing (Fig. 7)

Fig. 7